

children with diabetes. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the millions of Americans with diabetes and their friends and family, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and legacy of Dr. Donnell D. Etzwiler.

HONORING THE WOODIS FAMILY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the Woodis family of Montrose, Colorado for their willingness to dedicate their time and energy to benefit the disabled. The Woodis family is raising a puppy to be a companion dog for a person with a physical disability, and today I would like to pay tribute to their efforts before this body of Congress and this nation.

Sons Jeff and Ethan Woodis have raised pigs for their 4-H club, so when the club required a community service project, they turned to Canine Companions, an organization founded in 1975 to provide dogs trained to help disabled people achieve greater independence. Airlie, a female Black Labrador retriever, came to Montrose to live with the Woodis family and to learn thirty basic commands to help her prepare for life as a companion dog. After the initial training, Airlie will go to California for six months of advanced training before graduation. Then, the Woodis family will hand Airlie's leash to her new owner. Raising Airlie has been a community-wide effort, with help coming from numerous local organizations and businesses.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege to recognize the Woodis family for their contributions to the quality of life of disabled Americans. By helping to raise and train Airlie, the Woodis family is helping to provide increased independence and freedom, as well as a loving companion, for a disabled American. I thank them for their efforts.

HONORING MASTER SGT. ROBERT J. DOWDY

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2003

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor an American hero, Robert Dowdy, who lost his life during the conflict with Iraq. Master Sgt. Robert J. Dowdy, 38, was a native of Cleveland and a member of the 507th Maintenance Company of Fort Bliss, Texas.

First Sergeant Robert Dowdy was a loving son and devoted husband. A passionate distance runner, Robert placed second in a 10-kilometer run in el Paso, Texas, 2 years ago and contended in a 20-kilometer foot race over a mountain there in 1999.

Robert Dowdy had been in the Army for 18 years and was 2 years from retirement. His older sibling, Jack Dowdy expressed on his brother's behalf that Robert Dowdy had been looking forward to retirement to spend more time with his wife and 14-year-old daughter.

On behalf of the people of the 11th Congressional District and the United States Congress, I extend my heartfelt sympathy.

TRIBUTE TO MARY LU AFT

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2003

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding service of Mary Lu Aft, a friend and distinguished constituent, who has enriched the lives of countless individuals in the Cincinnati area. On April 25, 2003, Mary Lu will complete an unprecedented fifth and final term as Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Friends of the Public Library.

Friends of the Public Library is an organization that raises funds for materials, programs and services that support the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County. The Public Library system has a circulation of 12.8 million books, videos and other materials, and is the fourth busiest library system in the country.

Mary Lu is an invaluable part of the Cincinnati community. Since 1998, she has served as Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Friends of the Public Library, and, since 1989, has also served as its Chair of Book Sales. Over the years, Mary Lu has been integral to the success of "Friends." During her service, she oversaw and coordinated used book, warehouse, and branch sales, which have raised over \$1.6 million for the Public Library programs and purchases. Mary Lu also planned and coordinated the recycling of over 3 million books, which were donated to "Friends" or retired from the Library's circulation. Her leadership and hard work have made the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County a national model for such initiatives, and, of course, have been a tremendous benefit to those in the Cincinnati area.

Mary Lu also has been active with a number of other good causes and organizations. Since 1981, she has served as a consultant to the American Red Cross, and she continues to give her time and energy to the United Way of America. Among her other activities, Mary Lu is the Co-Chair of the 2003 International Conference of Volunteer Administrators.

Mary Lu's success has not gone unnoticed. She received the Great Rivers Girl Scout Council Woman of Distinction award in 2000 and the Cincinnati Enquirer's Woman of the Year award in 1999.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing Mary Lu's many accomplishments as she steps down as Chair of the Board of Trustees of Friends of the Public Library on April 25, 2003. I know Mary Lu will continue to make a difference in our community and Nation. All of us in Southwestern Ohio wish her the very best in her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO MILLIE BEALL

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Millie Beall of Steamboat Springs, Colorado for her extraordinary service to her community. Millie has long been recognized as a leader in Steamboat Springs, and today I would like to acknowledge her accomplishments before this body of Congress and this nation.

Millie moved to Steamboat Springs in 1971 for the ski season and never left. Since then she has served on the Steamboat Springs School Board for eight years, including four as its president, and another eight years as a member of the Routt County Education Foundation. Among many other activities, Millie has been involved with the El Pomar Youth in Community Service program, the Community Committee for the Arts, and the Yampa Valley Community Foundation, and the Northwest Colorado Philanthropy Days. She currently serves as the executive director of Routt County United Way and works to raise funds for a wide variety of projects. Spending most of her career in community service, Millie has received numerous awards, most recently receiving recognition from the Steamboat Ski and Resort Corporation.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege to recognize Millie Beall for her outstanding commitment to her community. Millie holds a key leadership role in Steamboat Springs, and her community is immeasurably better off because of her efforts. I wish Millie the best in all of her future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE TO COL. DAVID PERKINS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 9, 2003

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the many brave U.S. soldiers selflessly participating in Operation Iraqi Freedom. Col. David Perkins of Keene, New Hampshire, a community I represent in Congress, is the commander of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team of the 3rd Infantry Division. Col. Perkins led what has been referred to as the opening maneuver of the amazingly swift push of coalition forces into Baghdad.

On March 31, 2003, in a feat designed to draw the Iraqi Republican Guard away from Musayyib, where the division was to cross the Euphrates River, Col. Perkins focused attention on a bridge at Hindiyah, 50 miles south of Baghdad. The Granite Stater was reportedly "unfazed by Iraqi soldiers shooting at him" from the other side of the river as he told his men the bridge was not worth taking.

Col. Perkins then led a contingent of his men to the town's abandoned Baath party headquarters, where they destroyed a large weapons cache. In an historic event, just 4 days later, Col. Perkins' combat team and other brigades rolled through the streets of Baghdad.